

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 1, insert:

--Priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119(a) for the filing of Swedish Application No. 0203134-2 on October 22, 2002, and under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) for the filing of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/477,949 on June 13, 2003.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 20 and ending on page 1, line 26, with the following amended paragraph:

By using warm compaction, a process where the compaction is performed at an elevated temperature, typically at 120 to 250°C, the density can be increased with about ± 0.2 g/cm³, which results in a considerable improvement of the mechanical properties. A disadvantage is however that the warm compaction method involves additional investment and processing. Other processes, such as double pressing, double sintering, sintering at elevated temperatures etc, may further increase the density. Also these methods will add further production costs hence reducing the overall cost effectiveness.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 18 and ending on page 3, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

Powders having coarse particles are also used for the manufacture of soft magnetic components. Thus ~~the US patent 6 309 748~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,309,748 discloses a ferromagnetic powder, the particles of which have a diameter size between 40 and 600 μm .

In contrast to iron based powder particles according to the present invention, these powder particles are provided with a coating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 3 and ending on page 4, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

Powder mixtures including coarse particles are also disclosed in ~~the US patent 5225459~~ U.S. Patent No. 5,225,459 (EP 554 009) which also concerns powder mixtures for the preparation of soft magnetic components. Nor do these powder mixtures include graphite.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 6 and ending on page 4, line 11, with the following amended paragraph:

Within the field of powder forging it is furthermore known that pre-alloyed iron-based powders with coarse particles can be used. ~~The US patent 3 901 661~~ U.S. Patent No. 3,901,661 discloses such powders. This patent discloses that a lubricant may be included and specifically that the amount of lubricant should be 1 % by weight (example 1). If the powders according to the present invention were mixed with such a high amount of lubricant it would however not be possible to achieve the high densities.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 21 and ending on page 5, line 23, with the following amended paragraph:

The sintering may be performed at temperatures normally used within the PM field, e.g. at standard temperature between 1080 and ~~1160°C~~ 1160°C or at higher temperatures above 1160°C and in conventionally used atmospheres.